	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	10/626,548	MAEKAWA, YOHEI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Michael Y. Won	2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *amendment filed October 25, 2007 and interview conducted on November 9, 2007*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1,3,4,8,10,12-20,31,35 and 36 (re-numbered 1-17)*.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

        1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
    Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *attached* .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is in response to the amendment filed October 25, 2007.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

3.   Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Lenwood Faulcon (Reg. No. 61,310) on November 9, 2007.

4.   The application has been amended as follows:

Claims **2, 5-7, 9, 11, 21-30, and 32-34** have been canceled.

1. (Currently Amended) A configuration setting system for a network system

including a plurality of electronic devices communicably connected to a network, said

configuration setting system setting a configuration of an electronic device based on a

configuration of another electronic device that functions as a model device,

said plurality of electronic devices including a candidate electronic device to

operate as the model device, said candidate electronic device being provided with:

a checking system that checks whether there is a currently operating model

device on said network when said candidate electronic device is to function as the

model device;

a determining system that determines, when said checking system detects the

model device, only one of said candidate electronic device and the currently operating

model device as a new model device; and

a configuration sending system that sends configuration information of the

candidate electronic device to said plurality of electronic devices when the candidate

electronic device is determined as the new model device by the determining system;

wherein said currently operating model device is configured such that whether a

function of the model device is to be maintained is set, and

wherein said determining system determines that the currently operating model

device as the model device when said currently operating model device is configured

such that the function of the model device is to be maintained.

8. (Currently Amended) An electronic device capable of operating as a model

device for a configuration setting system for a network system having a plurality of

electronic devices communicably connected to a network, a configuration of the plurality

of electronic devices being set based on a configuration of the model device,

said electronic device capable of operating as the model device being provided

with:

a checking system that checks whether there is a currently operating model device on the network when said electronic device is to function as the model device;

a determining system that determines, when said checking system detects the currently operating model device on the network, one of said electronic device and the currently operating model device as a new model device; and

a configuration sending system that sends configuration information of the electronic device to said plurality of electronic devices when the electronic device is determined as the new model device by the determining system;

wherein said currently operating model device is configured such that whether a function of the model device is to be maintained is set, and

wherein said determining system determines that the currently operating model device as the model device when said currently operating model device is configured such that the function of the model device is to be maintained.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer accessible storage which stores a program which is executed by a computer so that the computer function as an electronic device capable of operating as a model device for a configuration setting system for a network system having a plurality of electronic devices communicably connected to a network, a configuration of the plurality of electronic devices being set based on a configuration of the model device,

said electronic device capable of operating as the model device being provided with:

a checking system that checks whether there is a currently operating model device on the network when said electronic device is to function as the model device;

a determining system that determines, when said checking system detects the currently operating model device on the network, one of said electronic device and the currently operating model device as a new model device; and

a configuration sending system that sends configuration information of the electronic device to said plurality of electronic devices when the electronic device is determined as the new model device by the determining system;

wherein said currently operating model device is configured such that whether a function of the model device is to be maintained is set, and

wherein said determining system determines that the currently operating model device as the model device when said currently operating model device is configured such that the function of the model device is to be maintained.

12. (Currently Amended) A configuration setting system for a network system including a plurality of electronic devices communicably connected to a network, said configuration setting system setting a configuration of an electronic device based on a configuration of a predetermined electronic device functioning as a model device,

said predetermined electronic device being provided with:

a checking system that checks whether there is a currently operating model device on said network when said predetermined electronic device is to function as the model device;

a determining system that determines, when said checking system detects no model device, said predetermined electronic device as the model device for said network system; and

a configuration sending system that sends configuration information of the predetermined electronic device to said plurality of electronic devices when the predetermined electronic device is determined as ~~the~~ a new model device by the determining system;

wherein said currently operating model device is configured such that whether a function of the model device is to be maintained is set, and

wherein said determining system determines that the currently operating model device as the new model device when said currently operating model device is configured such that the function of the model device is to be maintained.

35. (Currently Amended) A model device of a configuration setting system for a network system including a plurality of electronic devices communicably connected to a network, the configuration setting system setting a configuration of an electronic device based on a configuration of said model device,

said model device being provided with:

a determining system that determines whether an other electronic device is to function as the model device for the network system;

a setting system that sets the configuration of said model device so as to function as a non-model device, said setting system setting the configuration of the other

electronic device to function as the model device when said determining system

determines that the other electronic device ~~it~~ is to function as the model device for the

network system; and

a configuration sending system that sends configuration information of the model

device to said plurality of electronic devices when the model device is determined as the

new model device by the determining system;

wherein said model device is configured such that whether a function of the

model device is to be maintained is set, and

wherein said determining system determines that said model device as the new

model device when said model device is configured such that the function of the model

device is to be maintained.

36. (Currently Amended) A model device of a configuration setting system for a

network system including a plurality of electronic devices communicably connected to a

network, the configuration setting system setting a configuration of an electronic device

based on a configuration of said model device,

said model device being provided with:

a determining system that determines whether an other electronic device is to

function as the model device for the network system;

a setting system that ~~that~~ sets the configuration of the other electronic device to

function as a non-model device when said determining system determines that said

model device is kept operating as said model device; and

a configuration sending system that sends configuration information of the

~~candidate~~ <u>model</u> device to said plurality of electronic devices ~~when the candidate~~

~~electronic device is determined as the new model device by the determining system~~

<u>when said determining system determines that said model device is kept operating as</u>

<u>said model device;</u>

<u>wherein said model device is configured such that whether a function of the</u>

<u>model device is to be maintained is set, and</u>

<u>wherein said determining system determines that said model device as a new</u>

<u>model device when said model device is configured such that the function of the model</u>

<u>device is to be maintained</u>.

Allowable Subject Matter

5.   Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12-20, 31, 35, and 36 are allowable over prior art of record

in light of the arguments presented in the Amendment filed October 25, 2007 and the

Examiner's Amendment above.

6.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not disclose, teach, or suggest neither singly nor in

combination the claimed limitation of "a configuration sending system that sends

configuration information of the electronic device to said plurality of electronic devices

when the electronic device is determined as the new model device by the determining

system; wherein said currently operating model device is configured such that whether

a function of the model device is to be maintained is set, and wherein said determining

system determines that the currently operating model device as the model device when

said currently operating model device is configured such that the function of the model

device is to be maintained" as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in

independent claims 8, 10, 12, 35, and 36.

7.   Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

8.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Michael Y. Won whose telephone number is 571-272-

3993. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th: 7AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael Won/

Primary Examiner

November 12, 2007